

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NEW DE 11360 111240Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 INT-05 GSA-02 STR-04 TRSE-00  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /037 W  
-----092500 112302Z /65

R 111218Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5350  
INFO USDOC WASHDC  
AMCONSUL BOMBAY  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 11360

DEPT. PLEASE PASS TO USGS AND USBURMINES

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EMIN, ETRD, IN  
SUBJECT: CHROMITE EXPORTS

REF: NEW DELHI A-106

### 1. CHROMITE ORE EXPORTS FROM INDIA, ALTHOUGH BANNED IN PRINCIPLE

SINCE SEPTEMBER 1975, HAVE BEEN PERMITTED ON AN ADHOC BASIS, SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL QUOTA BY GRADES. FOR IFY 1977/78 THE GOI EXPORT QUOTA IS 250,000 METRIC TONS (MT). THE SAME AS IN THE PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR. OF THIS, 50,000 MT HAVE ALREADY BEEN COMMITTED. INDIA IS NOW SEEKING TO EXPORT THE REMAINING 200,000 MT OF CHROME ORE CONSISTING OF 100,000 MT OF GRADE I FINES CONTAINING 52 PERCENT CR<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>; AND 50,000 MT OF GRADE III LUMP ORE CONTAINING 40 PERCENT CR<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

2. THERE ARE FIVE COMPANIES IN INDIA, EACH WITH A GIVEN QUOTA, EXPORTING CHROMITE. THESE INCLUDE (A) THE ORISSA MINING CORPORATION; (B) MISRILAL MINES; (C) FERRO ALLOYS CORPORATION;  
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(D) TATA IRON AND STEEL CO; AND (E) MYSORE MINERALS LTD. ALL ARE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR EXCEPT THE ORISSA MINING CORPORATION WHICH HAS BEEN ALLOCATED ABOUT 40 PERCENT OF THE EXPORT QUOTA.

3. ACCORDING TO OFICIAL SOURCES, THE GOI HOPES TO MAINTAIN THE EXPORT QUOTA OF 250,000 MT FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS WITH THE PROSPECTS OF EVEN SOME INCREASE ON THE BASIS OF THE CURRENT

RESERVE PICTURE. TOTAL RESERVES ARE NOW REPORTED TO BE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF 50 MILLION MT COMPARED TO 18 MILLION REPORTED EARLIER. THIS REVISED ESTIMATE HAS APPARENTLY RESULTED FROM AN INTENSIVE EXPLORATION AND DRILLING PROGRAM NOW IN ITS SECOND YEAR TO DELINIATE THE EXTENT OF INDIA'S CHROMITE DEPOSTS. DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION IS ALSO UNLIKELY TO CHANGE FROM THE PRESENT LEVEL OF ABOUT 100,000 MT PER ANNUM.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED OF CURRENT CIF PRICES OF CHROMITE ORE BY GRADES IN THE US.  
GOHEEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPORT CONTROLS, CHROMIUM  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** 77 NEW DELHI A-106  
**Retention:** 0  
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**TAGS:** EMIN, ETRD, IN  
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**Review Markings:**  
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